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## CLAIMS

1.    A soap dispenser characterised in that the soap dispenser includes retaining means for supporting solid soap, the retaining means being provided with at least one

5    aperture, the arrangement being such that, in use, when water is caused to flow into the retaining means, soap dissolves into said water, and said water and said dissolved soap is thereby dispensed through said at least one aperture without physical contact between a user and said solid soap.

10    2.    A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the retaining means is movable into and out of alignment with an outlet of a tap.

3.    A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that the retaining means is pivotable about a substantially vertical axis.

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4.    A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that the soap dispenser further includes a projection extending outwardly of said at least one aperture, the projection serving as a handle to facilitate movement of the retaining means and the projection being cleaned by water passing through the at least one

20    aperture during use.

5.    A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the retaining means is substantially cup-shaped.

6.      A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the retaining means is a platform or a basket.

7.      A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that
5      the soap dispenser further includes a spigot extending from the retaining means.

8.      A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 7, characterised in that said solid soap is a substantially cylindrical soap portion adapted to engage with the spigot.

10      9.      A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 7 or claim 8, characterised in that the transverse cross section of the spigot is substantially cross-shaped.

10.      A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the soap dispenser further includes attachment means for attaching the soap
15      dispenser to an object such that the retaining means locates a predetermined distance from a tap.

11.      A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 10, characterised in that the attachment means is adapted to engage with a tap, a sink portion or a wall portion.

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12.      A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 10 or claim 11, characterised in that the attachment means includes a plurality of jaws and means for adjusting the spaced relationship of the jaws.

13.    A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, further including means for restricting water from immediately contacting said solid soap as water enters the retaining means during use.

5      14.    A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 13, characterised in that the said restricting means is a substantially conical shaped cap.

15.    A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, further including means for urging upwardly moving water to move inwardly of the retaining

10     means so as to thereby restrict splashback of water during use.

16.    A soap dispenser as claimed in claim 15, characterised in that said urging means is a substantially annular lip member having an inwardly extending inner surface.

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17.    A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the retaining means includes a plurality of compartments, each compartment of which is adapted to receive solid soap.

20     18.    A soap dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the retaining means is provided with a plurality of apertures.

19.  A soap dispenser characterised in that the soap dispenser includes retaining means for supporting solid soap, the retaining means being provided with an inlet aperture and at least one outlet aperture and the retaining means being arranged to retain said solid soap between the inlet aperture and the at least one outlet aperture.

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20.  A soap pellet for use in a soap dispenser as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the soap pellet is substantially cylindrical in shape.